<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artwork Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artist:</strong> Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Formerly attrib. to:</strong> Guo Zhongshu (ca. 910–977)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Bringing a Lute to an Immortal’s Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Xiqin xianguan tu</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dynasty/Date:</strong> Yuan-Ming, 14th century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Format:</strong> Hanging scroll</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Medium:</strong> Ink on silk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions:</strong> 150.0 x 95.7 cm (59-1/16 x 37-11/16 in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credit line:</strong> Gift of Charles Lang Freer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accession no.:</strong> F1919.128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provenance:</strong> Seaouke Yue (You Xiaoqi 游篠溪), Shanghai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fitted brocade wrapper:** Mounted with 1. inscribed fabric label, and 2. two inscribed end tags.

1. Anonymous
   

2. Anonymous
   
   Ink on fabric. Two tags; affixed at ends of brocade wrapper.
   
   Five and nine characters respectively.
郭忠恕山水
A landscape by Guo Zhongshu

第壹千九百七十八號
No. 1978

**Outside label:** Anonymous  Ink on paper.
Nine characters, running script

宋郭忠恕《攜琴仙館圖》
*Bringing a Lute to an Immortal’s Pavilion*, by Guo Zhongshu of the Song dynasty

**Inside label:** Anonymous
Ink on paper. Affixed on mounting, upper right
Eight characters, standard script

郭忠恕《攜琴仙館圖》
*Bringing a Lute to an Immortal’s Pavilion*, by Guo Zhongshu

**Artist inscription:** none
**Other inscriptions:** none

**Colophons:** none
Collector seals:  (5)

1. Hongxiao, Prince Yi 怡親王弘曉 (1722–1778) – (3)

   Yi qinwang bao『怡親王寶』 (square relief) – top center
   Mingshantang lan shuhua yinji『明善堂覽書畫印記』 (rectangle intaglio) – lower left
   Yiwang lan shuhua yin『怡王覽書畫印』 (square relief) – lower left

2. Undeciphered half seals – (2)

   (intaglio) – painting, lower right
   (intaglio) – painting, lower right

Traditional Chinese catalogues: none

Bibliography: none

Notes

In the foreground, two men in scholar’s robes accompanied by servants—each bearing his master’s wrapped qin 琴 (zither, or lute)—saunter across a rough wooden bridge. Their destination, apparently, is a pair of elaborate two-storyed pavilions built on the nearby lakeshore. Other scholars and servants can be glimpsed through the open windows of the main pavilion, which stands on a stone foundation that extends into the water. Front and back sections of the pavilion are supported by ranks of sturdy pilings that rest on this foundation, while an intricate bracketing system carries the exquisitely decorated tile roofs of each storey. Across the lake, a man turns away from a fishing rig with its net lowered into the water. Two other small figures can be made out walking toward a low rustic bridge.

While the label attached at upper right identifies the two buildings as an immortal’s lodge, this association with the divine should be taken as a mere figure of speech. The elaborate buildings are idealized structures belonging to the mundane world, but are essentially generic constructions, rather than depictions of an actual place. The buildings are drawn in the precise jiehua 界畫 (ruled line, or boundary drawing) method, a term that originated in the Southern Song dynasty (1127–1279). Deriving from a long tradition of architectural drawing, jiehua is the only non-freehand style of Chinese painting. The brush was attached to a stick that could move smoothly along a groove in an ungraded ruler, thus allowing the artist to draw regularly spaced and consistently even straight lines, as in the buildings seen here. The label also attributes this painting to the tenth-century master of jiehua, Guo Zhongshu 郭忠恕 (ca. 910–977); however, the execution is technically more consistent with the fourteenth-century continuation of his style, and is probably the work of an unidentified jiehua master from the late Yuan dynasty (1260–1368). For two other examples of jiehua painting from roughly the same time period, see F1915.36h and F1915.36i, elsewhere in this website.